

AMERICAN REGISTER FOR BARK E. C. MOWATT.

JANUARY 13, 1897.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PAYNE, from the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9734.]

The Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries, having under consideration the bill (H. R. 9734) to provide an American register for the bark *E. C. Mowatt*, report the same as follows:

This bark was dismasted and wrecked during a hurricane; abandoned at sea, and picked up by the British steamer *Anerly* March 9, 1896, in 32° north latitude, 91° west longitude, and towed by the *Anerly* into St. Thomas, West Indies. The bark left St. Thomas July 14, 1896, in tow of the tug *C. W. Morse*, and was towed into New York Harbor with her cargo still in, arriving July 24, 1896. The hull was sold by the underwriters to Gustavus A. Müller and John W. Mowatt, of Philadelphia, both citizens of the United States, for \$3,750. The bark has been thoroughly repaired and put in a staunch and seaworthy condition in United States shipyards at a cost of \$12,723.09, which amount is in excess of the requirements of the general law relative to the registry of wrecked foreign-built vessels (sec. 4136 Rev. Stat.).

As this case conforms to the general law referred to in all respects except that the vessel was wrecked on the high seas instead of within the waters of the United States, your committee believe she should be registered as a vessel of the United States, and accordingly report the bill favorably, with a recommendation that it pass.

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